

Now, we all hit bumps in the road, and there should be ways to assist people at such times. But if one is given something without working or paying for it, it should be deemed as a loan that would be paid back or worked off, not as a bottomless pit of money distributed with no strings attached.

Everyone should be merely entitled to an opportunity to succeed. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I look forward to the day when the word "welfare" is used as frequently as the word "dinosaur."

SCHOOL NUTRITION

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I am appalled by the devastating cuts in children's programs which the Republicans are pushing through the House.

There are many cuts to choose from—but none is more galling than the attack on child nutrition.

Over the next 5 years, the proposed Republican block grants will cut more than \$2.3 billion from school breakfast and lunch.

And, as if that were not enough, the block grant increases the proportion of Federal school food funding that can be used from State administrative costs.

How can a hungry child hear a teacher over the growling of an empty stomach?

How can a malnourished child keep healthy enough to stay in school?

Republicans have been telling us that these cuts are necessary to reduce our deficit. Yesterday evening the Committee on Appropriations voted on cutting taxes and reducing the deficit. Democrats voted yes in every instance. Republicans voted no in every instance.

STATES MUST BE GIVEN A CHANCE TO SOLVE SOCIAL WELFARE PROBLEMS

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, freedom and responsibility. These are two of the most important goals of our welfare programs, and right now, these are the two goals we have not achieved.

For over 3 years the Federal Government has thrown more and more money into entitlements that just continue the cycle of poverty and dependence. Throwing more money at our problems just does not work. Our social safety net has become a black hole from which there is often no return.

Let us give the States a chance to solve their own social welfare problems on their own. Giving the States back the right to take care of their own people makes good sense. The welfare needs of Idaho or Wyoming are certainly different from those of New York.

Congress should learn to appreciate the diversity between States and let each one tackle poverty and hunger in its own unique way.

We have had our chance. Now let us have the States show us what they can do.

GUAM HARDEST HIT BY BASE CLOSINGS

(Mr. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to point out the schizophrenia being experienced at the Pentagon these days.

Under the Secretary of Defense's recently released list of base closures to be considered by BRAC, Guam is the hardest hit American community on the list. It targets Guam for more personnel cuts than large States such as California, Virginia, and New York. The reductions represent between 5 and 10 percent of the entire work force on Guam, and as much as a quarter of Guam's economy could be adversely affected. Let me repeat: Up to 10 percent of the entire work force will be thrown out of work. If this magnitude or cut were undertaken in California, almost 1.5 million jobs would be affected.

To compound this problem, the Navy is trying to have it both ways. They are closing down facilities, saying they do not need them, and at the same time holding on to all the ports, drydocks, floating cranes, and other equipment in case they need the harbor in the future. This schizophrenia will leave our community in a straitjacket without the tools for our own economic survival. The military has the schizophrenia and we suffer the consequences. We need our facilities back.

NUTRITION BLOCK GRANT PROPOSAL

(Mr. GANSKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask a simple question of my colleagues across the aisle—Since when did the Government have the right to use the taxes of low-income people to subsidize families who live in \$400,000 houses and earn \$300,000 a year? I always thought they supported giving money to the needy and making the wealthy pay their fair share. Well, that is just what the Republican nutrition block grant proposal does. Eighty percent of the funds will be used to provide meals for low-income children.

Democrats have been ranting and raving for years that we should not subsidize the rich. Here is the perfect opportunity for them to offer bipartisan support to a proposal which does just that. An Omaha World Herald editorial drove the point home well.

School lunch bureaucrats would have you believe that children from upper-income families are paying the total cost of the lunch. Wrong. Full price for these children means the Government is subsidizing their lunches 30 cents for each lunch.

I think upper-income children can afford this extra 30 cents. We do not need to subsidize middle- and upper-income school lunchers. We need to subsidize the poor.

The proposed changes in the nutrition programs are a way to make sure that those who can pay their way will, and those who cannot get help.

THE DIFFERENCE A SINGLE VOTE CAN MAKE

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, what a difference a single vote makes. Due to the two-thirds requirement in the Constitution, the Senate failed to pass a balanced budget amendment. One vote. One vote per precinct elected John Kennedy. One vote in March 1995 may have saved Social Security.

The truth is, Congress, the Constitution cannot be mended with microwave legislation. Good legislation requires a two-thirds burn in that crock pot. There is an old saying, if you want to cook it right, cook it long. Social Security does not deserve a microwave treatment.

COMMONSENSE LEGISLATION TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, the Democrats portray us as a cold, callous, and insensitive group. How can someone truthfully claim that? In the past 58 days, we have done more to ensure a brighter future for the citizens of this country and especially the children.

We have worked night and day to pass a comprehensive crime package, a slew of regulatory reform bills, a balanced budget amendment, and unfunded mandate reform with the intention of getting the Government back on track by transferring authority to State governments. We have increased funding and have allowed greater growth for the School Lunch Program than in past years.

We are conscious of the need to protect our children from an ever increasing crime rate and a debt-ridden Government, while in turn creating a comfortable and productive environment for them to learn.

We will continue to work hard by passing commonsense legislation for the benefit of our prized and most important resource—our children.